

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MAYOR BOB KISS

NUMBER 50

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CITY COMPLETES MAJOR DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Earlier this month the City announced the completion of a \$1.6 million project for improvements to lower Church Street and St. Paul Street bordering City Hall Park. The changes include upgrades to sidewalks and ADA compliance issues, improvements to major intersections, providing bulb-outs, mid-block crossings, and use of on-street kiosk parking meters.

The project was managed by the Department of Public Works and included \$323,000 in local “match” funding. The remaining cost of the project was funded by federal transportation funds secured through the efforts of Senator Patrick Leahy.

Among the project goals is to enhance the vitality and livability of Burlington’s downtown core. The City appreciates the patience of businesses and residents while the project was completed!



Mayor Kiss with Ben & Jerry's CEO Jostein Solheim and Project Manager Erin Demers as Ben & Jerry's Plaque is unveiled

Burlington Recognized as “Silver-Level” Bike-Friendly Community

The League of American Bicyclists has named Burlington as a Silver level Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) during their 2011 Fall awards announcement. The BFC award recognizes Burlington’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies. The recognition is based on a variety of factors, including:

- o Dedicated advocates working in partnership with DPW and Parks staff to improve biking programs and facilities

- o Plans for bike lanes on Pearl Street and Colchester Avenue
- o Volunteer-led secure bicycle parking at dozens of events in 2011
- o Burlington’s updated bicycle ordinances, approved by the City Council
- o Increased levels of bicycling in the city
- o Increased availability of bicycle parking racks
- o Several initiatives from Local Motion

Congratulations to DPW, bike and pedestrian planner Nicole Losch, and everyone who contributes to making Burlington a bike-friendly community!

..... FROM MAYOR KISS



The City is in the midst of bringing several major projects to completion. \$1.6M in downtown improvements to lower Church and St. Paul streets were completed earlier this month. Work on the Cherry Street and Church Street intersection has begun to improve that crossing for pedestrians and vehicles.

Major stormwater improvement work went on throughout the summer, supported by federal recovery funds. And, the street-paving season should wrap up in

October or November, bringing to a close one of the most ambitious paving efforts the City has ever seen, funded through a bond and dedicated tax approved by voters.

These projects were realized through the hard work of City staff, the patience and support of residents and businesses, and our many partnerships. We must continue to invest in the City's infrastructure to maintain and enhance Burlington's livability and economic vibrancy.

Burlington Telecom

This Month the City learned that CitiCapital filed a lawsuit in federal court against the City regarding Burlington Telecom. This concerns a critical element of public infrastructure. In light of Burlington's good faith effort to resolve this dispute without the need for litigation, CitiCapital's lawsuit is unfortunate.

The City will defend its interests and those of taxpayers and BT customers in court. The City's insurance carrier has retained the law firm of Burak, Anderson, and Melloni to defend the City.

I want to be as clear as possible that BT will continue to provide quality services to residential and business customers. Moreover, BT services cannot be curtailed or terminated without approval of the Public Service Board. CitiCapital's claims made in litigation have no impact on the provision of these services.

With best regards,

Bob Kiss, Mayor

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RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11

Moment of Remembrance, Burlington City Hall 9-11-11

